

Message Text

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72

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 L-03

H-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 AGR-20 SCEM-02 /180 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/ICD-JJINGERSOLL:MW

APPROVED BY EB/ORF-JLKATZ

AF/EPS-RLOMBARDI

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R 102042Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 241176

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD, EAGR MP

SUBJECT: RE SUGAR: WASHINGTON VISIT OF MAURITIAN OFFICIALS

REF: PORT LOUIS 2003

1. PETER WHITE AND BERNARD BOULLE, ACCCOMPANIED BY
WASHINGTON LOBBYISTS SHARON AND PIERSON MET DEC. 4 WITH
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY JULIUS L. KATZ. MAJOR PURPOSE
OF VISIT WAS TO DISCUSS MAURITIAN VIEWS CONCERNING FUTURE
OF US SUGAR LEGISLATION. WHITE AND BOULLE EXPRESSED
SERIOUS CONCERN OVER POSSIBILITY U.S. ABANDON COUNTRY
QUOTAS AND MOVE TO USDA PROPOSED SYSTEM UNRESTRICTED
IMPORTS FROM WORLD MARKET. WHEN QUERIED ABOUT WHY
EFFICIENT PRODUCER LIKE MAURITIUS SHOULD FEAR FREELY
COMPETITIVE SITUATION, WHITE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH MAURITIUS
ABLE COMPETE EFFECTIVELY THEY STILL ATTACH CONSIDERABLE
IMPORTANCE HAVING ASSURED MARKET AT ASSURED PRICE FOR
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KNOWN QUANTITY THEIR SUGAR. AS FOR DESIRED CHANGES
CURRENT U.S. SUGAR PROGRAM, VISITORS EXPRESSED HOPE

MAURITIUS MIGHT BE ACCORDED LARGER QUOTA.

2 DISCUSSION WAS BROAD AND CONGENIAL. AS FOR FUTURE
US *EGISLATION KATZ ASSURED VISITORS ADMINISTRATION
CONSIDERING CAREFULLY VARIOUS ALTERNATIVE POSSIBILITIES,
OF WHICH USDA PROPOSAL IS ONE, BUT THAT NO REPEAT NO
ADMINISTRATION POSITION YET DETERMINED. SITUATION

EXPLAINED AS SET FORTH STATE 225729.

3. IN RESPONSE QUESTION EXTENT FUEL SHORTAGE MIGHT
AFFECT MAURITIUS SUGAR PROCESSING, WHITE SAID MILLS
REGULARLY USE CANE WASTE FOR FUEL AND HAVE EXCESS
ENERGY WHICH IS COMMONLY DIVERTED TO OUTSIDE CONSUMERS.
THUS, OIL SHORTAGE HAS ABSOLUTELY NO EFFECT ON SUGAR
OUTPUT. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUGAR, IMPORTS, FUEL OIL, SUPPLIES, IMPORT QUOTAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE241176
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JJINGERSOLL:MW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731234/aaaaaypn.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: PORT LOUIS 2003
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <07 MAR 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RE SUGAR: WASHINGTON VISIT OF MAURITIAN OFFICIALS
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, MP
To: PORT LOUIS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005